



LIBRARY OF VIRGINIA

2021 Year in Review

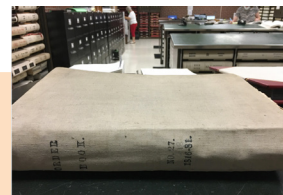
DOUG WILDER VISITED HIS GOVERNORS PAPERS

JANUARY 4 | Former Governor L. Douglas Wilder visited the stacks to see where the original copies of his administration's records are being stored after the Library finished processing them. Now fully open for research, the records document his administration's activities and accomplishments.



CCRP GRANT REVIEW BOARD APPROVED PROJECTS TOTALING \$1.6 MILLION

January 13 | The Library's Government Records Division announced that the Circuit Court Records Preservation Program Grant Review Board awarded 96 records preservation grants totaling \$1.6 million to 95 circuit courts across the commonwealth at its latest meeting. The preservation projects include professional conservation treatment for almost 350 items.



WEINSTEIN AUTHOR SERIES LINEUP ANNOUNCED

January 28 | The Library announced its 2021 Carole Weinstein Author Series schedule, offering a deep look into Virginia with historians, a poet, and a *New York Times* best-selling author covering topics such as monuments, racial equity, and the Founding Fathers.



carole
WEINSTEIN author series

2021

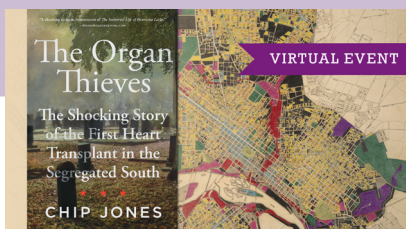
FIVE HONORED AS STRONG MEN & WOMEN IN VIRGINIA HISTORY

February 11 | In observance of Black History Month in February, the Library and Dominion Energy honored five distinguished Virginians as the 2021 Strong Men & Women in Virginia History for their contributions to the commonwealth and the nation: Evelyn Reid Syphax, Lillie Louise Boone Lucas, Dr. Lerla G. Joseph, Rev. Stan Maclin, and Krysta N. Jones.



VIRGINIA HISTORY BOOK GROUP LAUNCHED

March 16 | The Library launched its second monthly book club, the Common Ground Virginia History Book Group, where members read and discuss compelling nonfiction books handpicked by Library staff members that explore Virginia history, society, and culture. The virtual discussions sometimes include Library collection items related to book topics.



VIRTUAL EVENT

LIBRARY PARTNERED ON JACKSON WARD HISTORY PROJECT

April 21 | The Library partnered with The JXN Project and the Richmond Public Library for a six-part virtual lecture series on the history of Richmond's Jackson Ward neighborhood as part of the 150th-anniversary events.



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VIRGINIA'S PUBLIC LIBRARIES USE FEDERAL CARES ACT FUNDS

May 4 | Virginia public libraries that received federal CARES (Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security) Act assistance through the Library of Virginia by the Institute of Museum and Library Services announced projects supported by the funds, such as WiFi zones, mobile library services, and increased programming for underserved communities.



READING ROOMS REOPENED WITH NO APPOINTMENTS REQUIRED

May 28 | Appointments were no longer needed to use our 2nd-floor reading rooms. Our Special Collections Reading Room still requires an appointment. Face coverings were—and still are—strongly encouraged in the building.



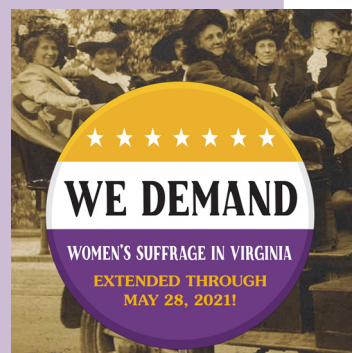
GOVERNOR NORTHAM ANNOUNCED LIBRARY BOARD APPOINTMENTS

May 14 | Governor Ralph Northam announced that Dr. Robert L. Canida II, of Lynchburg, and Lana Real, of Aylett, had been appointed to serve their first terms on the Library of Virginia Board, while Barbara Vines Little was reappointed to a second term.



WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE EXHIBITIONS CLOSED

May 28 | The exhibitions *We Demand: Women's Suffrage in Virginia* and *Unfinished Business*—which opened in 2020 to commemorate the centennial of the ratification of the 19th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution guaranteeing women the right to vote—closed after a long run extended by the pandemic.



BY THE NUMBERS

SNAPSHOT as of November 1, 2021

COLLECTION ITEMS

130 MILLION

DIGITIZED ITEMS

+1.4 MILLION

LIBRARY CARD HOLDERS

19,235



RESEARCH DATABASES

85

VOLUNTEER TRANSCRIBERS

2,365

PAGES TRANSCRIBED

163,518

SOCIAL MEDIA FOLLOWERS

22,674





EVENTS CELEBRATED THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF VIRGINIA'S CURRENT CONSTITUTION

July 1 | The 50th anniversary of Virginia's current Constitution, which replaced a regressive document that had been in place since 1902, was celebrated with events including a panel discussion and a display of the commonwealth's original constitution documents. The topic was also the subject of this year's Anne & Ryland Brown Teacher Institute as well as a website with related resources.

LDS CHURCH ADOPTED HISTORIC AFRICAN AMERICAN CEMETERY RECORDS FOR CONSERVATION

July 12 | The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints and the Library announced a project to preserve and digitize the Evergreen Cemetery Interment Volume, 1926–1962. Containing records from a historic African American cemetery in Richmond, the volume will be conserved, deacidified, given a new binding, and made available on the Library's website in digital format for research and transcription.



TRIGIANI

THE LIBRARY OF VIRGINIA FOUNDATION

ANNOUNCED NEW OFFICERS AND BOARD MEMBERS

July 2 | The Library of Virginia Foundation announced new officers Lucia Anna "Pia" Trigiani (president), Julia Marsden (vice president), Corynne Arnett (treasurer), and Dr. Lara Wulff (secretary), as well as new board members BK Fulton, Lou Marmo, Brad Parks, and Dr. Lynn Rainville.



DIAL-A-STORY 24/7 PHONE LINE DEBUTED

July 14 | A new program for public libraries from the

Library and the Institute

of Museum and Library Services, Dial-A-Story makes storytime for children available on the phone all day, every day—in English or Spanish—at 833-690-0646. Senator Tim Kaine recorded a story for the program in English and Spanish.

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FISCAL YEAR 2021 (July 1, 2020–June 30, 2021)

WEBSITE VISITS

3.3 MILLION

WEB PAGE VIEWS

+36.7 MILLION

COLLECTION ITEMS CONSERVED
IN-HOUSE

1,270

RESEARCH QUESTIONS
ANSWERED

15,697

IN-PERSON RESEARCH
APPOINTMENTS

4,976

VIRTUAL EVENTS,
WORKSHOPS, WEBINARS,
AND PROGRAMS
FOR THE PUBLIC

72

EVENT ATTENDEES & VIEWERS

25,207

COLUMBIA PIKE: THROUGH THE LENS OF COMMUNITY EXHIBITION OPENED

August 31 | A unique exhibition of photographs at the Library running through January 8, 2022, *Columbia Pike: Through the Lens of Community* celebrates the extraordinary cultural diversity found within a single community in Northern Virginia. The photographers' personal connections to the neighborhood allowed them to capture the strength, pride, resilience, elegance, and beauty of so many overlapping cultures.



LIBRARY HOURS EXTENDED—INCLUDING TWO SATURDAYS EACH MONTH

September 27 | Library hours were extended to Monday–Saturday, 9:00 AM–5:00 PM for the Lobby and Exhibition Gallery, and two Saturdays a month from 10:00 AM to 4:00 PM for the second-floor reading rooms.



DR. IDA CARRUTHERS ADDRESSED THE VIRGINIA COMMISSION TO STUDY SLAVERY

October 8 | In her remarks to the first meeting of the Virginia Commission to Study Slavery, held at the Library of Virginia, educator and social justice advocate Dr. Iva Carruthers discussed how her research might assist the commission in its work, especially in the area of reparations and related efforts. The commission has been tasked with studying the current impact and long-term inequities of racial and economic discrimination against African Americans.



NEW VIRGINIANS BROCHURE INCLUDED IN NEW TIME CAPSULE

September 11 | Among the items selected for a new time capsule placed in the concrete pedestal of the recently removed Robert E. Lee Monument in Richmond was a *New Virginians* booklet with portraits of 24 immigrants whose interviews formed the core of the Library of Virginia's 2019 exhibition of the same name. Library records had suggested that a time capsule with about 60 objects had been placed in the monument's base in 1887, but that capsule was not found.



VIRTUAL VIRGINIA DATATHON TOOK ON FOOD INSECURITY

October 7 & 8 | This year's Virtual Virginia Datathon presented by the Library and the Office of Data Governance and Analytics tackled the issue of food insecurity with "Addressing Hunger Through Bits and Bytes." Teams worked to develop data-driven solutions to grapple with hunger in the commonwealth by providing actionable insights into how a food system can fuel all Virginians.



LIBRARY OF VIRGINIA LITERARY AWARDS CELEBRATED VIRTUALLY

October 16 | The Library celebrated the best of Virginia literature over five days of free virtual events culminating in the 24th Annual Literary Awards Celebration on October 16, hosted by best-selling author Adriana Trigiani. Authors were awarded in poetry, fiction, and nonfiction categories, as well as in People's Choice for fiction and nonfiction and the Art in Literature: The Mary Lynn Kotz Award.

